

Remarks

Claims 1-11, 13-14, 16-27, 29-30, 32-46 are pending in the present application. Claims 12, 15, 28, and 31 have been cancelled. Claim 1 was amended to include the features of cancelled Claim 15 and to clarify features already included in the claim. Claim 17 has been amended to include the features of cancelled Claims 28 and 31 and to clarify features already included in the claim. Claim 33 has been amended to clarify features already included in the claim. Dependent Claims 39-46 were added to claim subject matter disclosed in the application. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the pending Claims and allowance is respectfully requested in view of the following comments.

The 35 U.S.C. §112 Second Paragraph Claim Rejections

Claims 1-11, 13-14, 16-27, 29-30, 32 and 35-36 stand rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph as being indefinite. Applicant has amended Claims 1, 9, 17, 25, 35 and 36 to change "may be" to "are" as the Examiner suggested. Accordingly, Claims 1-11, 13-14, 16-27, 29-30, 32 and 35-36 are now definite and Applicant respectfully requests removal of the 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph rejections.

The 35 U.S.C. 102(b) Claim Rejections

Pending Claims 1-11, 13-14, 16-27, 29-30, 32-38 stand rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ryan, H.W., et al., "Netcentric Computing, Computing, Communications and Knowledge" p. 1-413; Copyright 1997, CRC Press LLC, Boca Raton, FL, United States U.S. (hereinafter "Ryan").

Claims 1-11, 13-14 and 16

Claim 1 provides an environment services architecture for a netcentric computing system that includes runtime services, system services, application

services, a component framework service and operating services. The application services are for performing common functions in the netcentric computing system. The common functions include first services and second services. The first services are selected from the group consisting of application security services, error handling/logging services, state management services, active help services and common services. The second services are application integration interface services that are configured to pass context and control of information to an application in the netcentric computing system that is external to the application services. The application integration interface services are configured to specify a communication path for passing information to the application that is external to the application services. The application integration interface services are further configured to define an interface by which other applications can expect to receive information from the application that is external to the application services.

To the contrary, Ryan does not teach, suggest or disclose application integration interface services. On p. 7 line 14 of the office action mailed June 21, 2004, it was indicated with regard to the features of dependent Claim 15 that Ryan taught application integration interface services on "pp. 69-72 Component Framework Services and particularly first paragraph in the section." Applicant respectfully disagrees since on p. 5 line 11-12, the limitation directed to a component framework service in Claim 1 was cited as anticipated by pgs. 69-72. Clearly, the application integration interface services and the component framework service in Claim 1 are separate and distinct services with different functionality. In addition, Ryan's Component Framework Services do not include application integration interface services that are configured to specify how information will be passed to an external application, and define an interface by which other applications can expect to receive information from the external application as provided by Claim 1.

Accordingly, for at least the foregoing reasons amended independent Claim 1 is patentably distinct over Ryan. Further, dependent Claims 2-11, 13-14 and 16 depend from Claim 1, and are also patentable over Ryan for at least the same reasons.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejections of Claims 1-11, 13-14 and 16.

Claims 17-27, 29-30 and 32

Amended Claim 17 describes a method of providing an environment services architecture for a netcentric computing system. The method includes performing common functions in the netcentric computing system with common services located on the client and the server. First common services are selected from the group consisting of application security services, error handling/logging services, state management services, active help services and common services. The method also includes enabling an application on a remote client to access externally stored parameters and validation rules in the netcentric computing system with second common services that are codes table services, and selectively caching in application related memory on the remote client at least a portion of a code table created using the codes table services. The code table is created from the externally stored parameters and validation rules that are accessed using the codes table services. In addition, the method includes passing context and control of information to an external application in the netcentric computing system with third common services that are application integration interface services. The external application is external to the remote client.

Ryan on the other hand, does not teach, suggest or disclose enabling applications with codes table services as claimed in Claim 17. Nor does Ryan teach, suggest or disclose selectively caching at least a portion of a code table created from the externally stored parameters and validation rules using the code table services as claimed in Claim 17. Further, Ryan does not teach, suggest or disclose passing context and control of information to an external application with application integration interface services as also described in Claim 17.

Amended independent Claim 17 is patentably distinct over Ryan for at least the previously discussed reasons. In addition, dependent Claims 18-27, 29-30 and 32 depend from Claim 17, and are patentable over Ryan for at least the same reasons.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejections of Claims 17-27, 29-30 and 32.

Claims 33-38

Amended Claim 33 is directed to an environment services architecture for a netcentric computing system. The system includes at least one web server connected with a remote client. The client and the web server include runtime services, system services, application services, a component framework service and operating system services. The application services include codes table services and application integration interface services. The codes table services are configured to enable applications to use parameters and validation rules stored in the netcentric computing system external to the web server and the remote client. The application integration interface services are configured to provide a gateway to pass context and control of information to an application in the netcentric computing system that is external to the web server and the remote client. The component framework system is configured to provide an infrastructure for building components for applications. The components can be built with the component framework system to enable communicate within an application and across applications.

As previously discussed, Ryan does not teach, suggest nor disclose codes table services nor application integration interface services. Thus, Ryan does not teach applications that are enabled by the codes table services to use externally stored parameters and validation rules as described in Claim 33. In addition, Ryan does not teach, suggest or disclose that application integration interface services pass context and control of information to an external application as further provided in Claim 33.

For at least the foregoing reasons amended independent Claim 33 is patentably distinct over Ryan. In addition, dependent Claims 34-38 depend from Claim 33, and are also patentable over Ryan for at least the same reasons. Applicant therefore respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection of Claims 33-38.

New Claims 39-46

Claims 39-46 were added as new claims. Claim 39 is similar to cancelled Claim 12. As provided in Claim 39, Ryan does not teach, suggest or disclose third services that are codes table services. The codes table services are configurable to enable applications operable in a remote client to access at least one of parameters and validation rules that are stored external to the remote client as further provided in Claim 39. In the office action mailed June 21, 2004 on page 7 lines 5-7, the "Other Common Services" described on pg. 69 of Ryan were indicated in the office action as teaching codes table services as described by now cancelled Claim 12. Contrary to the assertions in the office action, Ryan teaches only that Other Common Services are a "catchall category for additional reusable routines useful across a set of applications."

In addition, Ryan teaches examples of such reusable routines are "date routines, time zone conversions, field validation routines, etc." Therefore Ryan does not teach, suggest or disclose codes table services that enable applications or a client to use externally stored parameters and validation rules as described in Claim 39. Further, Ryan does not teach, suggest or disclose codes table services configurable to create and cache a code table as provided in Claim 40.

Claim 41 further describes passing context and control of information. Again, Ryan fails to teach, suggest or disclose specifying a communication path over which the information will be passed, and defining an interface by which other applications can expect to receive information from an application with the application integration interface services. Claims 42 and 43 also describe limitations related to the application integration interface services that are not taught, suggested or disclosed by Ryan. Claims 44 and 45 describe limitations related to the codes table services that are also not taught, suggested or disclosed by Ryan. Ryan also fails to teach, suggest or disclose that an application in a netcentric computing system that is external to a web server and a remote client comprises at least one of an integrated performance support system, an ERP system or a custom application, or combinations thereof as provide in Claim 46. Accordingly, new Claims 39-46 are patentably distinct over Ryan.

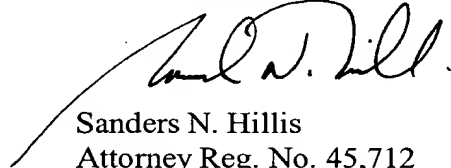
Serial No. 09/676,580

Filing Date: September 29, 2000

Reply to Office Action Mailed on June 21, 2004

The application is believed to now be in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner deem a telephone conference to be beneficial in expediting allowance of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sanders N. Hillis
Attorney Reg. No. 45,712
Attorney for Applicant

SNH

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
One Indiana Square, Suite 1600
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
Telephone: 317-636-0886
Facsimile: 317-634-6701